

*Flowering:* December - January; *fruiting:* cence of the fruit could not be described in  
January —? detail.

*Type:* Nagaland: Narum, 1200-1500 m (4000-5000 ft.), Dec. 1907, *A. Meebold* 7394 (holo. CAL); Sarpung, 1500 m? (5000 ft.), Dec. 1907, *A. Meebold* 7230 (para. BSI).

*Note:* As matured flowers and fruits are insufficient, opening of the flower and dehisc-

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to; the Director, Botanical Survey of India; the Deputy Director, CNH for facilities; the Deputy Director, Western Circle for loan of specimens; and to Dr. G. V. S. Murthy for working out the morphology of the pollen grains.

### THREE NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *ACANTHASPIS* (AMY. AND SERV.) FROM SOUTHERN INDIA (HETEROPTERA — REDUVIIDAE — ACANTHASPIDINAE)<sup>1</sup>

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(With three text-figures)

Three new species of the genus *Acanthaspis* from the Oriental region, namely *Acanthaspis nigripes*, *Acanthaspis siruvanii*, and *Acanthaspis minutum* are described. All the three species have been illustrated.

The genus *Acanthaspis* of the subfamily Acanthaspidinae has the largest number of described species and the three new species described below add further to the wealth of the Reduviid fauna of the Oriental region.

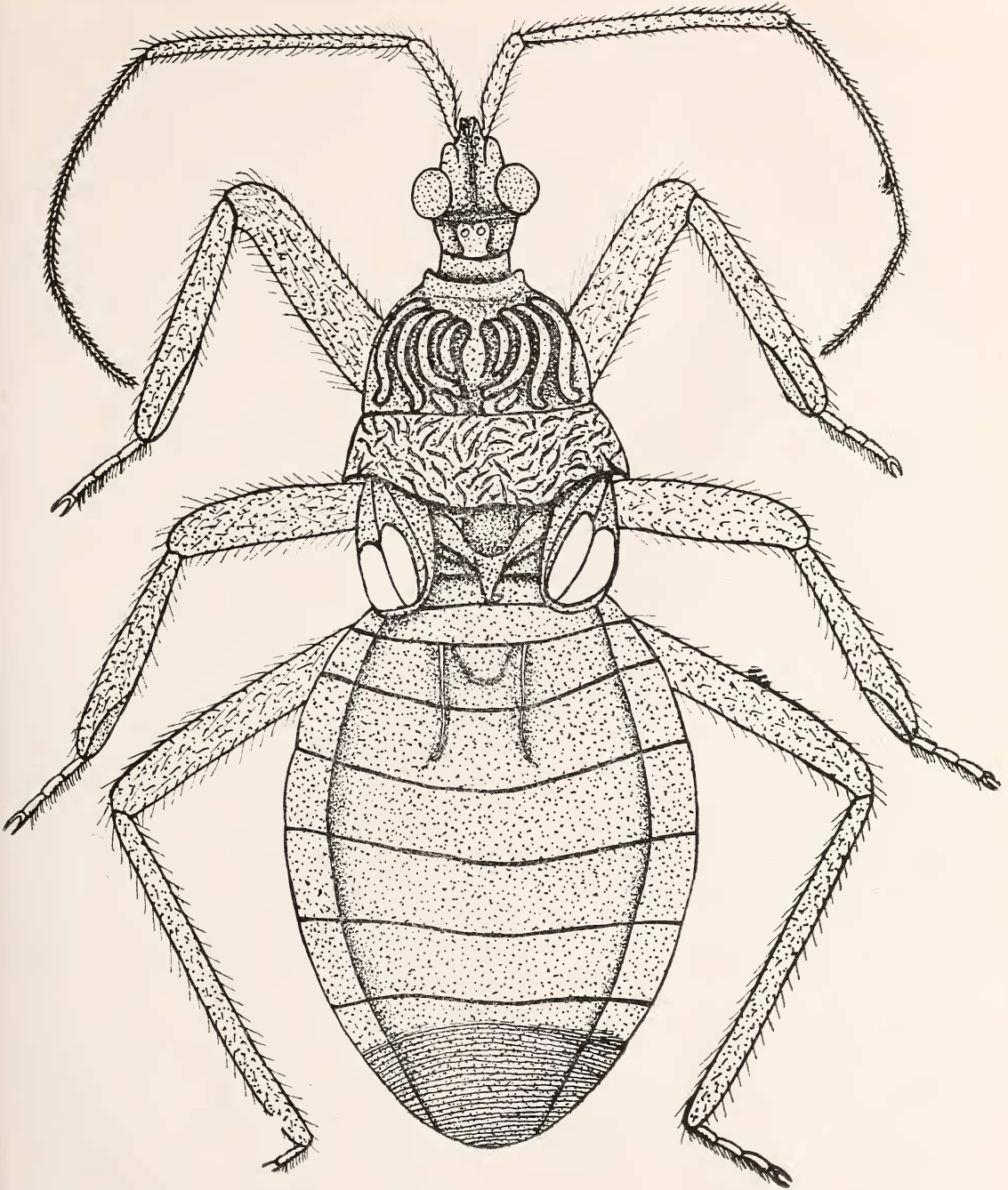
#### *Acanthaspis nigripes* sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

MALE: length 21 mm, width across the abdomen 8 mm; micropterous; elongate; unicolorous, piceous except the distal half of the wing which is luteous; head elongately ovate; the frontal groove confluent with the transverse deep fissure in front of the ocellar prominence; second segment of the antenna

almost double the length of first segment which is much shorter than the head; first rostral segment slightly longer than the second; eyes very prominently globose; ocelli purplish brown, much elevated; collar elongate, swollen posteriorly; thorax laterally and ventrally with dense hairs, dorsally with sparsely distributed hairs; pronotal anterior and posterior lobes almost equal in length, anterior lobe globose, dorsally marked by sulcations and carinations, both uniformly piceous; anterior border of the anterior lobe slightly concave, lateral margins with backwardly directed short tubercles; posterior margin of the posterior lobe on either side of the middle line transversely foveated up to the base of the posterolateral sharply pointed tubercular spine; scutellar spine elongate, sharply pointed upward, scutellum with well demarcated dorso-median foveation; posterior lobe of pronotum and scutellum rugulose; wing pad rudimentary, extending

<sup>1</sup> Contribution No. 50, Division of Entomology, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore. Accepted July 1987.

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3 mm

Fig. 1. *Acanthaspis nigripes* sp. nov.

upto the first visible abdominal segment, membranous part opaque and luteous; fore and mid tibiae with well developed tibial pads covering almost 1/3 of the length of the tibia; abdomen entirely smooth dorsally and with a few hairs ventrally; the second and third visible abdominal segments with a prominently formed dorsal carination on either side of the middle line; dorsal abdominal scent gland orifice of the first visible abdominal segment directed towards the dorsum; genital segment dorsally with densely set transverse striations.

This species resembles *Acanthaspis pedestris* in the presence of the pair of carinations on the second and third abdominal segments, direction of the opening of scent gland orifice and in the general formation of the pronotum, but markedly differs from it by its coloration, size, much elongate shape of the body and the head, smoothness of the dorsum, microptery, second antennal segment much elongate than the first and the second rostral segment shorter than the first.

*Holotype*: Male, serial No. 16, pinned specimen deposited at present in the reduviid collection of the Division of Entomology, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, India.

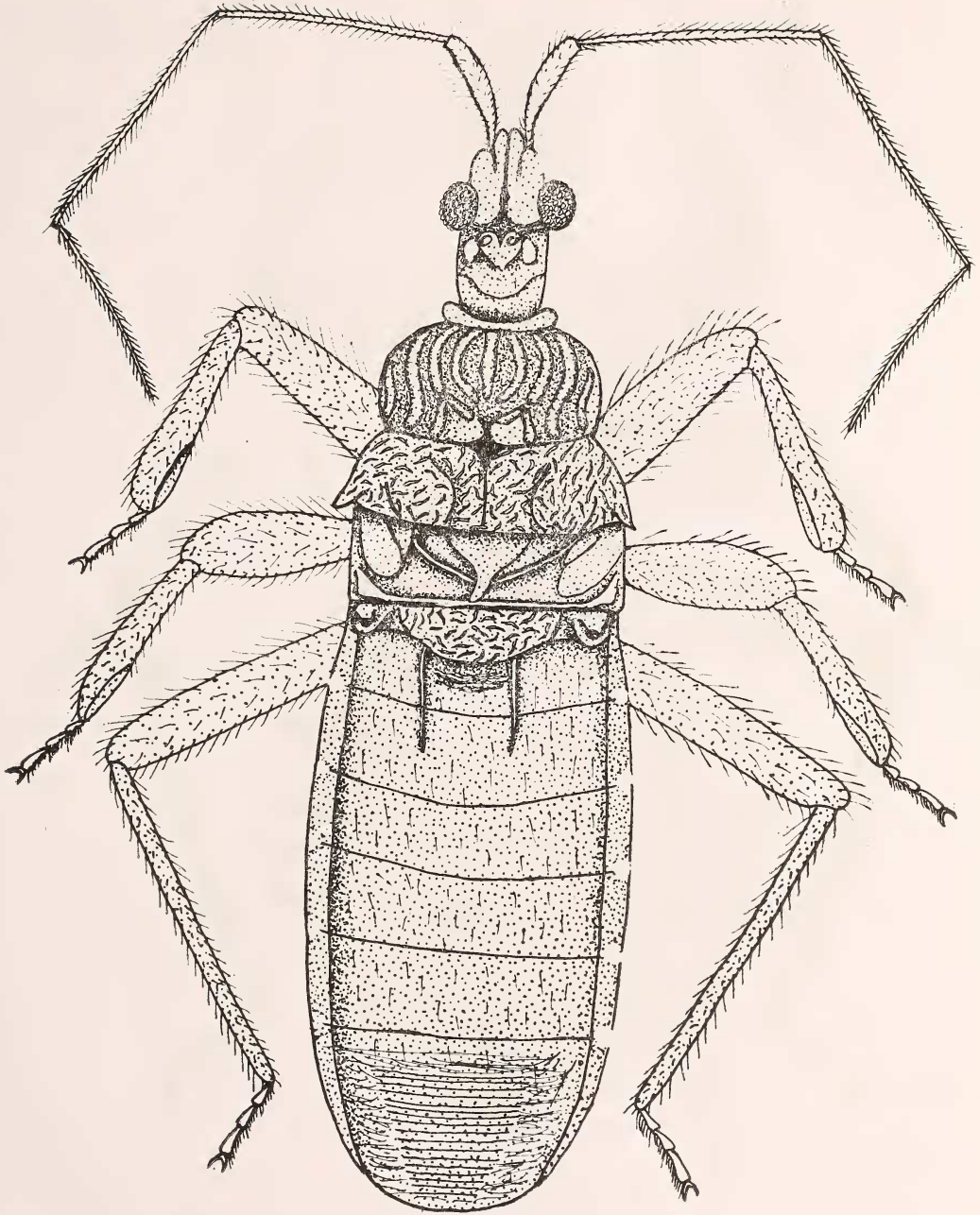
*Collection information*: Single specimen, collected from underneath a boulder in the Yelagiri Hills, North Arcot District, Tamil Nadu on 18.4.1984, at e. 1000 m MSL.

*Acanthaspis siruvanii* sp. nov. (Fig. 2)

MALE: length 18 mm, width across the abdomen 5 mm; micropterous; unicolorous, black; body elongately ovate; head elongately ovate; anterior extension of the frons forked, porrectly terminating just in front of the antennal base; median frontal groove fairly broad at the middle and posteriorly expanding to remain confluent with the deep transverse fissure in front of the transparently white ocelli; a faint

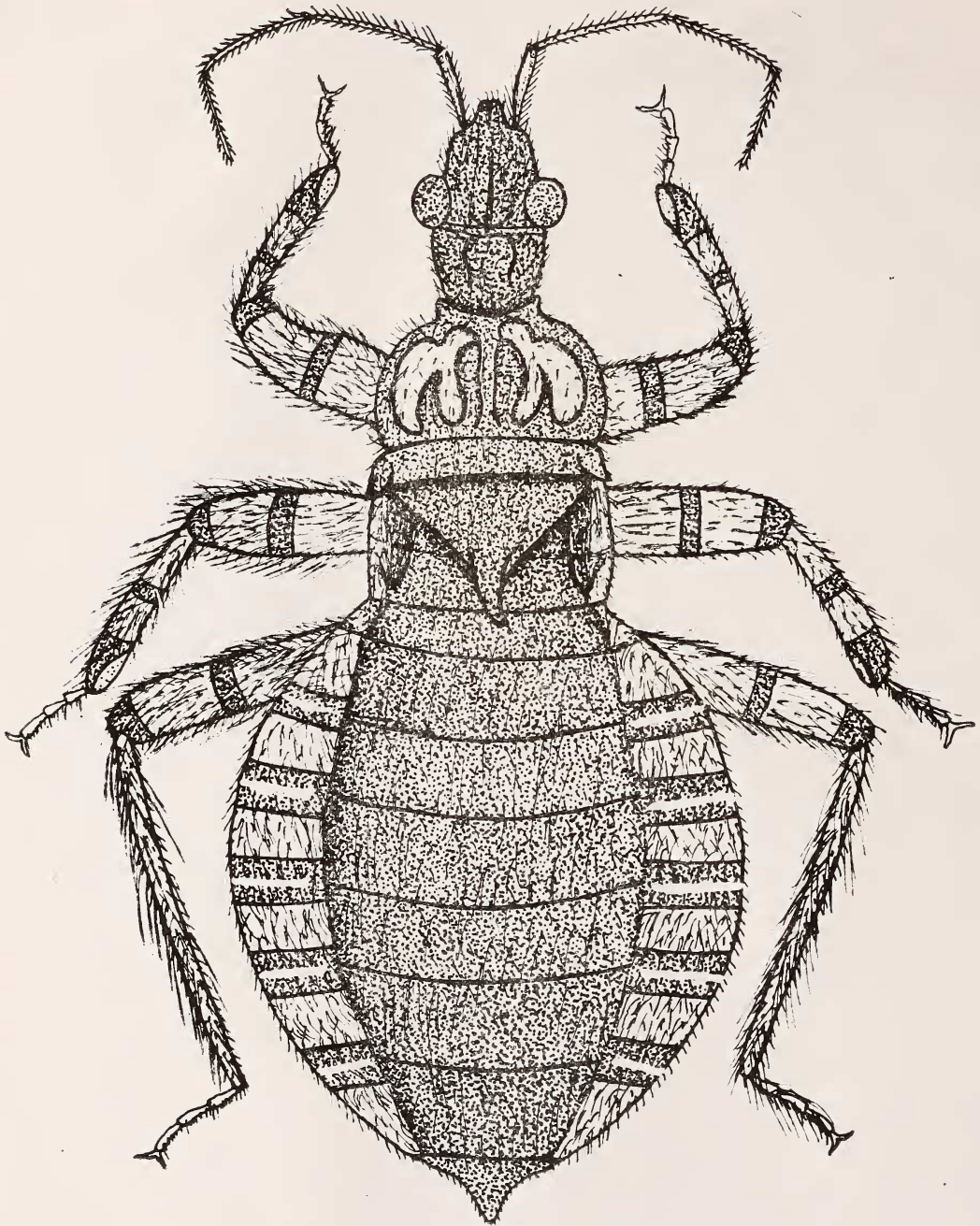
ochraceous blotch on the post gena on either side of the ocellar prominence; first joint of the antennae much shorter than head, directed anteriorly, second joint a little longer than the first; first segment of the rostrum a little longer than the second; pronotal sulcations shallow, carinations not conspicuously elevated, both foveations and sulcations unicolorous, black; anterior lobe slightly longer than the posterior lobe, antero-lateral tubercles prominently globose; posterior lobe rugose, discal prominence conspicuous, discal tubercle moderately prominent, postero-lateral tubercle moderately developed, outwardly directed; scutellar spine moderately developed, vertically directed upward, body of the scutellum rugose; meso- and metanota with prominent ridge along their posterior border; wing pad rudimentary, not extending beyond the posterior limit of the mesonotum; legs elongate, pilose, the tibial pads of the fore and mid legs extending almost 1/3 the length; carina on either side of the midline of the second visible abdominal segment well formed, extending upto the middle of the third segment, median posterior rugose expansion of the first visible abdominal segment most conspicuous; dorsum covered with fine short hairs; scent gland orifice of the first visible abdominal segment prominent, posteriorly directed; minute, faintly ochraceous spots on the connexivum of the second to sixth segments, but no median spots; eighth abdominal segment dorsally elevated and transversely striated.

This species closely resembles *Acanthaspis nigripes* in being similar in shape, hue and carination of the second and third abdominal segments, but it can be readily recognised by its micropterous, uniformly dark wing pad that does not extend beyond the mesonotum, nature of development of the mesonotal and metanotal ridged border, presence of rudimentary discal tubercle of the posterior lobe of



3 mm

Fig. 2. *Acanthaspis siruvanii* sp. nov.



2 mm

Fig. 3. *Acanthaspis minutum* sp. nov.

#### NEW DESCRIPTIONS

the pronotum, ochraceous spots on the connexivum and by the prominently formed median posterior rugose expansion of first visible abdominal segment.

*Holotype*: Male, serial No. 13, *Allotype*: A single female, both pinned specimens deposited at present in the reduviid collection of the Division of Entomology, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, India.

*Collection information*: Male and female specimens were collected from underneath bark of a tree in the Tropical Rain Forest region of Siruvani, Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu on 8.5.1985 at c. 450 m MSL.

#### *Acanthaspis minutum* sp. nov. (Fig. 3)

**FEMALE**: length 7 mm, width across the abdomen 3 mm; apterous; ovate, fuscous with ochraceous bands; densely tomentose; head elongately ovate; deep transverse fissure across the head at the posterior margin of the eyes; ocelli conspicuously absent; postocular and ante-ocular areas subequal; a faint ochraceous spot on the gena behind each eye; antennae pale fuscous, first segment as long as pre-ocular area of the head, slightly incrassated, curved outwardly; second antennal segment annulated, slightly longer than the first; rostrum fuscous, second segment slightly longer than the first; anterior lobe of pronotum globose, much larger than posterior lobe; dorsal carinations fairly well formed, fuscous, its antero-lateral tubercles obscure; posterior lobe like a narrow strip behind the anterior lobe, laterally produced on either side as a small tubercle; carinations on the anterior lobe continuous as

minute ridges on the posterior lobe; scutellum fuscous, broadly triangular, dorsally punctate, apically produced into moderately elongate, upwardly directed spine; fore femora incrassated, mid femora slightly incrassated with an apical fuscous band; hind femora slender, as long as the tibia, with a subapical fuscous band; abdomen expanded, fuscous, densely tomentose throughout; entire connexivum from first visible segment to seventh segment with fuscous bands dorsally and ventrally, each fuscous band with central ochraceous streak.

This species resembles the female of *Edocla slateri* in the absence of ocelli, general body shape, colour, incrassated first antennal segment and annulations of the legs, but markedly differs from it by its minute size, the greatly reduced posterior lobe of pronotum, the obscurely formed tubercles, the smooth connexivum and the incrassated fore femora.

*Holotype*: Female, Serial No. 17, pinned specimen deposited at present in the reduviid collection of the Division of Entomology, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, India.

*Collection information*: Single specimen, collected from underneath stone in the Nagarjuna Sagar Dam site, Andhra Pradesh, South India on 7.7.1985 at c. 200 m MSL.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to the authorities of the Bharathiar University, Coimbatore for providing facilities, and to the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi for financial assistance.